COMMON CORE, DIVERSE AND URBAN LEARNERS: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

PRESENTERS

Urban Special Interest Group (SIG) Initiative
University of Central Florida

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Description:
As the Common Core State Standards are being implemented across our nation, initial research findings suggest that many teachers feel un- or underprepared to teach them, especially to students with disabilities, second language learners, and those who may come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Objectives:
The purpose of this presentation is to provide a forum wherein teachers, educational leaders, researchers, and other stakeholders may have the opportunity to lend their voice in sharing strategies that work that address the needs of diverse learners and those with specific needs in the implementation of these standards.

Content:
Evidence Based practices; Culturally Responsive Teaching & Learning

Methods of Presentation:
Forum
OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

1. Who are we?

Mission Statement:

The mission of the University of Central Florida’s College of Education Urban Initiatives Special Interest Group (SIG) is to further promote inclusivity and diversity throughout the university and community by serving the needs of students and families in urban settings, specifically those who have been historically underserved and marginalized.

Vision:

Through broad-based partnerships across the University, and within the local community, this group seeks to:

• Identify the specific needs of students and their families in surrounding urban communities, seeking sustainable solutions and meaningful outcomes for students;
• Enhance the education and preparation of undergraduate and graduate students for work within the education profession, by providing engaging course work, impactful research opportunities, and authentic service learning opportunities with students and their families in urban settings, and by recruiting, retaining, and supporting diverse teacher education candidates;
• Support continued scholarship, innovation and emerging leaders within schools and local urban communities.

We commit to these collective efforts to enhance the educational opportunities for all students in order to promote a more fair, just and equitable society.

2. Collaborations

Coalition of Urban Serving Universities

The idea is simple: By harnessing the collective power of our public urban research universities, we will rebuild America’s cities, and once again, make them places for opportunity, innovation, and vitality (Nancy Zimpher, Immediate Past Chair, the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities & Chancellor, The State University of New York (SUNY) System).
Public School Districts in Service Area; Communities in Service Area

3. Why the need for such a discussion?

a. When affluent schools get a cold, then urban, rural, and poor school districts often get pneumonia! Impact, Implications.

b. A vehicle for sharing multiple voices and perspectives.

c. Roles and responsibilities of higher education institutions and like groups;

d. Preparing Teachers

e. What are anticipated differences in teaching strategies (practices) using Common Core Standards?

f. How will/do these differences impact diverse learners and closing the achievement gap?

4. Frequently Asked Questions